to tighten the security arrangements in North-Eastern Region to bring under control the mounting insurgency in that region; and

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken in the matter keeping in view the ever deteriorating situation in the region?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a and (b) The insurgency situation in the North East is under constant watch.

Out of the seven States in the North East, four States viz. Assam, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura are seriously affected by insurgency at present.

Various measures have been taken to counter insurgency. Prominent insurgent groups have been declared as 'unlawful associations' under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967. The whole of Manipur, Nagaland and Assam States have been declared as 'disturbed areas' under the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958. The army and the Central Para-military forces have been deployed in the affected areas. Additional forces in the form of India Reserve battalions have been sanctioned for the North-East. Financial assistance is being extended to the State Governments by the Central Government for modernising their police forces. In the case of the North-Eastern States affected by insurgency, Special Central Assistance for security related matters is also being released. Diplomatic initiatives with the neighbouring countries have been taken. Simultaneously, steps continue to be taken for economic development, particularly with a view to improving the basic infrastructure in the region.

The situation is closely reviewed at various levels to effect coordinated action.

Improvement of Phone Services in rural areas of Andhra Pradesh

*467. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the minister of COMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been no improvement of phone services in rural areas of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether General Manager, Telcom is monitoring such services;

(c) whether any scheduled visits are done by the General Manager to rural areas in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, details of such visits?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The details of visits by General Managers are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Visits done by G.Ms. in Rural Areas (from/April '95 to March, '96)

	Name of the Station	Date of visit
I. G.M. Telecom District Guntur		
Veldurthi	Veldurthi	17.8.1995
	Amaravathi	28.8.1995
II. G(D), Office of	Narapally	4.4.1995
GTD, Hyderabad	Abdullapurmet	4.4.1995
	Sanghinagar	4.4.1995
	Turkayamjal	4.4.1995
	Badangipet	4.4.1995
	Mamidipally	4.4.1995

	Name of the Station	Date of visit
III. G.M. Telecom, Hyderabad	Gonegandla	1.7.1995
	Puthalapattu	15.7.1995
	Kothakota	21.8.1995
	Parasanthinilayam	17.11.1995
	Ahobilam	25.11.1995
	Panyam	8.3.1996
	Hussainapuram	8.3.1996
IV. G.M.T.D. Rajahmundry	Yanam	10.11.1995
	Annavaram	10.11.1995
	Draksharama	10.11.1995
	Kothapeta	25.11.1995
	Mukkamala	25.11.1995
	Ambajipet	25.11.1995
	Mukteswaram	25.11.1995
	Ravulapalem	25.11.1995
	Tatipaka	9.12.1995
	Malkipuram	9.12.1995
	Sakhinetipalli	9.12.1995
	Korukonda	30.12.1995
	Gokavaram	30.12.1995
	Rampaohodavaram	30.12.1995
	Marodumilli	30.12.1995
	Ambajipet	23.3.1996
	Tatipaka	29.3.1996
	Anaparthi	30.3.1996
	Rayavaram	31.3.1996
V. GMTD, Visakhapatnam	Paderu	6.4.1995
	Elamanohili	18.7.1995
	Tagarapuvalasa	11.3.1996
VI. GMT, Vishakapatnam	Gudivakalanka	4.4.1995
	Vijayarai	4.4.1995
	Dharmajigudem	4.4.1995
	Attili	5.5.1995
	Penumantra	5.5.1995
	Kamavarapukota	6.5.1995
	Tadikalapudi	6.5.1995
	Pedapadu	6.5.1995
	Garividi	29.6.1995
	Pusapatirega	15.7.1995
	Hiramandalam	7.7.1995
	Pitapuram	7.7.1995
	Garividi	14.7.1995
	Undi	19.7.1995
	Elamanchili	19.7.1995
	Ganapavaram	20.7.1995

	Name of the Station	Date of visit
	S. Kota	7.8.1995
	Veeraghattam	11.8.1995
	Garividi	26.9.1995
	Gajapathinagaram	6.11.1995
	S. Kota	8.12.1995
	Gara	8.12.1995
	Calingapatnam	29.12.1995
	Pathapathnam	30.1.1996
	Maliannti	30.1.1996
	Baruva	30.1.1996
	Kaviti	30.1.1996
	Garividi	27.2.1996
VII. GMTD, Vijayawada	Lankapalli	30.10.1995
VIII. GMT, Warangal	Vangara	26.7.1995

Fake Educational Certificates in Delhi

*468. SHRI JOY NADUKKARA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi North District Police had detected any gang engaged in making fake educational certificates from the University Campus area and discovered fake certificates and mark sheets;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been made as to identify the persons who have already purchased these fake certificates and wether any of them succeeded in obtaining jobs or admission to higher courses on the basis of these certificates; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. However, the investigation conducted so far in this case has not established the identity of any person who may have used these fake certificates for securing a job or admission to a higher course.

Increase in production of Jute Bags

*469. SHRI LACHHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) Whether any study has been undertaken to establish the merits of jute bags containers over the synthetic ones in the Country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of Government thereto; and

(d) the steps taken by Government for increasing the production of jute bags containers to meet the demand?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b) The Technology Information, Forecasting & Assessment Council (TIFAC) prepared a Techno-Market Servey Report on packaging technologies in June, 1991. The Report, inter alia, indicated end users preference, technological options and preferred options for the jute industry, demand forecast, production and utilisation of juce fibre. It also recommended that TIFAC should initiate further studies on polyjute bags etc. to evaluate in depth the techno-economic feasibility, end users acceptance and long term potential of the options.

(c) The Standing Advisory Committee constituted under the Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987 takes into account all the relevant factors before submitting its recommendations to the Government and accordingly the Government notifies the percentages for compulsory packaging of various commodities.